

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Solución... revolución since 1911

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1994

Students to pay higher rates so the University can cash in McGill grants monopoly to long distance broker

BY LINDSAY BECK

McGill's agreement with the long distance company ACC may be restricting students' right to choose.

In August 1994, McGill students received a letter from Principal and Vice-Chancellor Bernard Shapiro announcing McGill's new Affinity Long Distance Savings Plan. According to the agreement, if students sign on with ACC, each time they make a long distance phone call ACC will contribute a percentage of the charges back to the university.

According to the letter, "...this plan can provide you with one of the best overall long distance savings packages available."

What Shapiro's letter failed to mention, however, was McGill's entering into an exclusivity agreement with ACC, under which all other phone companies are prohibited from soliciting on campus. The only company allowed to set up tables, hand out flyers or advertise in McGill publications is ACC.

Chris Wrobel, a distributor for competing long distance company Matri-Comm, asks, "How can a publicly funded institution have the right to grant commercial exclusivity?"

The same plan, including an exclusivity agreement, is being promoted at Concordia, with ACC information tables, letters and flyers being distributed throughout campus.

In barring other companies from campus, McGill may be limiting students' ability to research their own, independent choice. And from looking at the services Matri-Comm is offering, ACC may not be the best choice.

According to Wrobel, Matri-Comm is "always better than ACC on international calls and day-time long distance calls", and is comparable to, or better than ACC on evening calls, weekend calls, and calls made with a travel card. In addition, because Matri-Comm bills in six second increments, subscribers aren't charged the extra seconds incurred when companies round up to the nearest minute. That in itself can result in savings of 5-15%.

But Paul Johnson, SSMU Vice President of Finance says that ACC has chosen universities as their market niche, and as such has been very successful. As for exclusivity Johnson asserts, "The larger the market you can offer suppliers, the more leverage you have."

In terms of how the revenue from ACC will benefit students, the Graduates' Society has given the SSMU

two options, one of which will be chosen by students shortly. Under the first option, the SSMU will be given a straight cut of 10% of the profits, an estimated \$50,000. Under the second option, the Committee on Private Funding would guarantee the SSMU a say on how 50% of the profits are spent. Says Johnson, "We are trying to see how flexible they'll be within [the second option] before Council makes a decision."

According to David Pickwood of the Alumni Association, McGill met with three companies, and in the end ACC had the best overall package.

"It is important to note that McGill doesn't solicit [affinity agreements]. They are assessed on an individual basis," Pickwood said.

Pickwood also suggests that as government and public funding declines, this kind of a program may become more common, whereby students' consumption of a certain product or service helps provide the

university with needed revenue. While it is commendable that the university is taking advantage of other sources of revenue, students should be aware that with these agreements comes exclusivity. When asked about her decision to sign on with ACC, one McGill student said, "I was in a rush, the table was there, so I signed up." The question arises whether the same choice would have been made had there been three table displays to compare.

The ACC program is not the first of its kind at McGill. The program is similar to the McGill Mastercard which was one of the first affinity programs initiated on campus five years ago. Again, no other credit card companies may solicit on campus.

So, if Pickwood's prediction is accurate and McGill enters into increasing numbers of affinity agreements, students should be aware that there are other choices available outside the Roddick gates.



PHONEY BUSINESS: This fall, all McGill students got a letter from Principal Bernard Shapiro, asking them to go with ACC for their long distance savings. McGill gets a kickback but the rates aren't so hot.

Christian movement fights economic oppression Students scare off World Bank

BY AUBREY COHEN

Last Thursday, students demonstrated outside of the Bronfman building in protest of a planned visit by a recruiter for the World Bank.

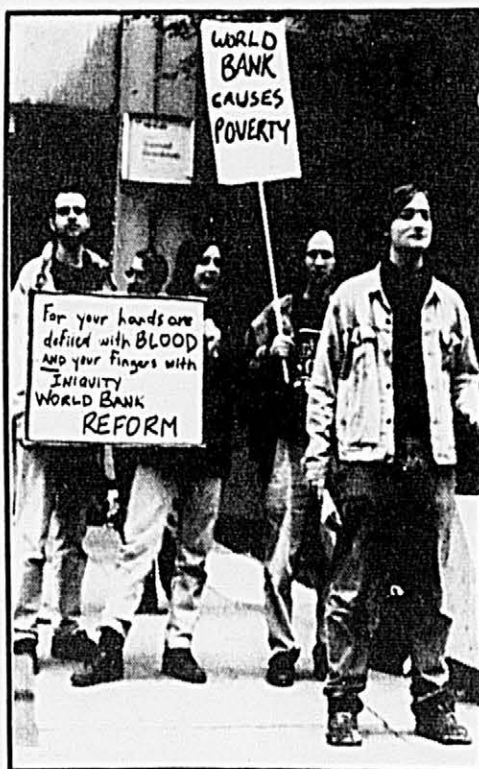
Carrying plaques saying, "Third World bleeds under World Bank policy", "World Bank, Reform!", and "Stop World Bank recruiting at McGill," students braved the rain and the early morning to hand out flyers to students and other passers-by, chant slogans and listen to a speech by John Ihnat of the Student Christian Movement, which organized the protest.

Ihnat explained the reason why the SCM is involved in such issues.

"The SCM has in its mandate to find ways in which spirituality and active work for social justice can be combined. We see the heart of spirituality today in opposing any forms of exploitation and oppression whether that occurs in terms of homophobia and sexism, or whether that be economic domination over the poorest countries in the world, which is the policy of the World Bank," he said.

David Galston, the United Church Chaplain at McGill, echoed this sentiment.

"The Student Christian Movement is dedicated to putting into life the prophetic call for social justice," he said.



Students demonstrated to prevent a World Bank recruiter from getting any converts on campus last Thursday. The recruitment officer cancelled his scheduled visit.

Mebrat Beyene, of the Black Student Network (BSN), was also at the protest. She detailed the interest of the BSN.

"I think it's important that people know the truth and realities of the World Bank and then make their decision afterwards, because there probably are people who are genuinely ignorant about what the World Bank does. If you were to base your decision on what you hear in the mainstream media, the average person would believe that it's an organization that is trying to help the poor of the world," she said.

In his speech, Ihnat explained how the World Bank has helped enrich the First World at the expense of the Third World.

"Talking about the North giving the South money is deceptive. The net transfer of wealth in the past few years has been from the South to the North... Since 1982, the debt burden of the South has increased by \$600 billion," he said.

Beyene agreed that the World Bank was not fulfilling its mandate.

"The policies of the World

Bank don't create any kind of profit for the Third World, but rather ensure that it remains in poverty," she said.

In order to deal with the debt, the World Bank introduced Structural Adjustment Policies (SAPs—see sidebar).

"The SAPs insure that the poor, not the rich, pay for the debt," said Ihnat.

The SCM was also protesting against McGill.

"By allowing the World Bank to recruit on McGill campus, McGill is implicitly collaborating in the goals of the World Bank. They are telling students, implicitly, that to apply for and accept a job in the World Bank is legitimate," said Ihnat.

In the end, the World Bank Representative cancelled his visit. McGill would give no reason for the cancellation.

Squeezing the Third World
Ihnat explained the reasons for demonstrating against the World Bank.

"The ostensible mandate of the World Bank was to shift capital resources from developed to less-developed countries... The net transfer of wealth in the past few decades

continued on page 2

McGill **Work Study** PROGRAM

The Student Aid Office is pleased to announce the continuation of the Work Study Program for the 1994-95 academic year!

WHAT IS WORK STUDY?

- Work Study is a program which provides students with financial assistance through part-time employment on campus. Work Study positions are varied and range from clerical jobs to more challenging jobs such as research or programming.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You may apply if you are:

- a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or international student (International students must obtain a Work Permit before beginning work).
- are a full-time McGill Student, registered during the academic period in which the work is performed and must be in satisfactory standing.
- demonstrate financial need and have applied for student loans.

HOW DO I APPLY?

- Obtain a Work Study Student Application and submit a completed form by the deadline: **October 14, 1994.**

OFFICE OF STUDENT AID & INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISER
Powell Building, 3637 Peel St., Room 200

Maxwell Cummings Lecture Faculty of Arts & Department of Political Science present

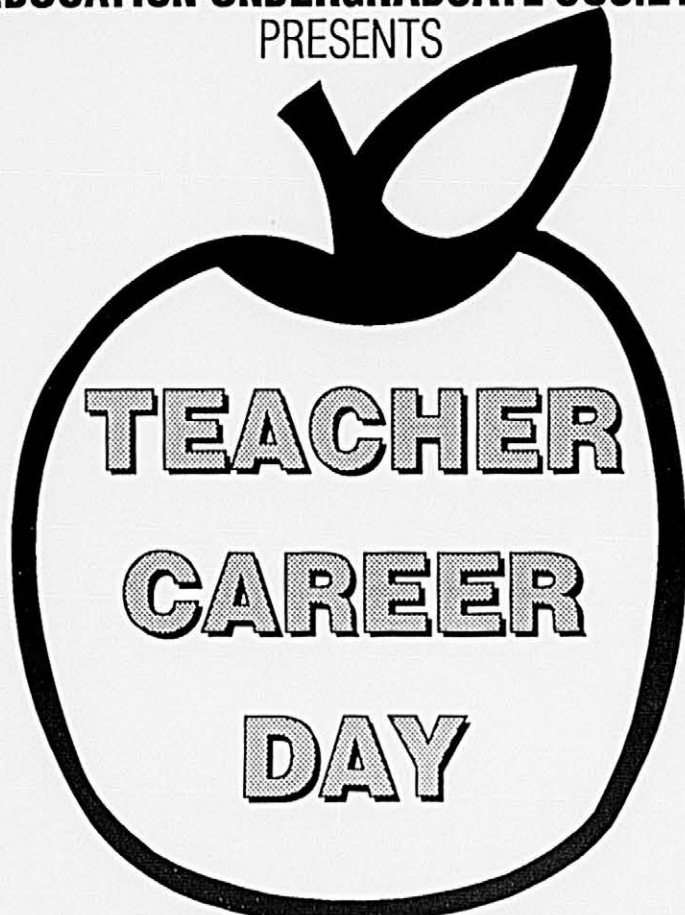
Professor Alexander L. George
Stanford University

Preventive Diplomacy & War Avoidance in the Post-Cold War Era

Thursday, October 6, 1994
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Stephen Leacock Bldg., Lecture Hall 26
Free Admission. All Are Welcome!

EDUCATION UNDERGRADUATE SOCIETY PRESENTS



**TEACHER
CAREER
DAY**

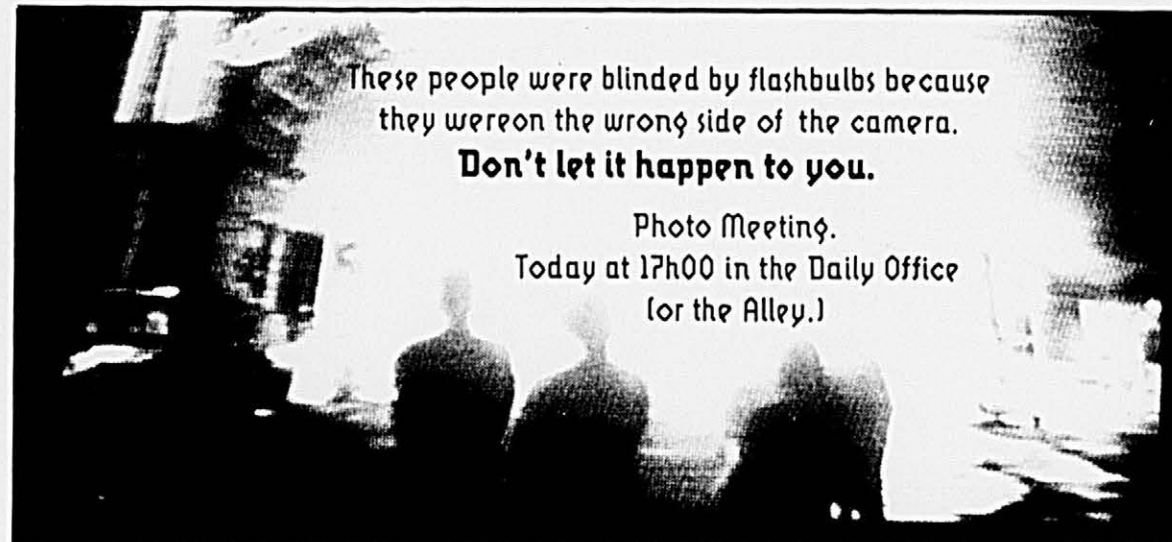
Tuesday, October 11th, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM
UNION BALLROOM
IT'S YOUR FUTURE - DON'T MISS IT!!

events

- The Islamic Culture Network invites you to an Islamic Awareness Day on Thursday, October 13, between 12h and 18h at the Union Ballroom
- The McGill Debating Union debates: BIRT McGill should implement a policy regarding sexual conduct in its student code on Mon. October 17 in room 302 of the Shatner Building.
- International Socialists will hold a public meeting titled: "The Reform Party's Racist Agenda: How to fight back!" on Wed. October 5 in room H771, Hall Bldg, 1455 de Maisonneuve W.
- McGill Christian Fellowship is having a prayer meeting Fri. October 7 at 19h in the Shatner Caf. call Jean 288-9741
- Liberal McGill presents the

- Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, Minister of Human Resources. Topic: Recent reforms to Canada's social policy. Wed. Oct. 12, 12h30 3644 Peel.
- WUSC McGill, a development education group, will meet on Thurs. Oct. 6, at 18h in room 306 of the Union building. call 284-0609.
- McGill Faculty of Medicine hosts Harvard geneticist Dr. Philip Leder for public lecture Wed. Oct. 5, at 3655 Drummond, 6th floor.
- Group Action will meet on Wed. Oct. 5, at 18h30 to discuss new projects and ideas. Call Lisa 287-9677.
- SSMU Environmental Committee meeting Wed. Oct. 5 at 17h in the Shatner Cafeteria. Call 333-2877.
- HIV/AIDS education/prevention

- workshops for women to be held every Saturday and Sunday from 10h to 15h until the end of October. Free. Sponsored by the Centre for AIDS Services of Mtl. call Rita at 954-0170.
- Lecture by Marty St. Clair on "HIV Replication and Drug Resistance" at Hall Building room H-767, 1455 de Maisonneuve W. Sponsored by Concordia HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee.
- Sexual Assault Centre opened Oct. 3. Office hours Mon-Fri 10h to 18h. Evening helpline 7 days a week, 18h to 00h. Call 398-2700.
- Liberal McGill general meeting Wed. Oct. 5, 13h room 310 Shatner.
- Speaker: "Right to refuse treatment" Wed. Oct. 5, 19h-21h. Douglas Hall.



These people were blinded by flashbulbs because they were on the wrong side of the camera.

Don't let it happen to you.

Photo Meeting.

Today at 17h00 in the Daily Office
(or the Alley.)

Out with the World Bank

continued from page 1

"By allowing the World Bank to recruit on McGill campus, McGill is implicitly collaborating in the goals of the World Bank."

— John Ihnat,

Student Christian Movement

has been from the South to the North. Since 1982, the debt burden of the South has increased by \$600 billion, a 61 per cent increase in debt," he said.

An SCM pamphlet detailed the situation.

"After years of irresponsible lending and financing of unsustainable projects, [the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund] now account for 17 per cent of Third World debt. These institutions now take in more money than they lend out... Many countries are so deeply in debt that they must borrow money to pay off previous debts."

SALON DE COIFFURE JOVENI
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Welcome Students, Profs & Personnel.

MEN

\$10

WOMEN

\$15

Includes Shampoo, Cut, Blowdry
Free Coffee with haircut.

425 De Maisonneuve West, 844-7748
Valid until 31 Aug. '95

"Much of the money loaned to the Third World has gone to corrupt governments and to mega-projects that do not benefit the poor. The burden of paying the 'debt', however, rests squarely on poor workers who did not borrow the money in the first place."

Structural Adjustment Programs born

"After the outbreak of the debt crisis in 1982, the World Bank and IMF stepped in to 'solve' the problem by structurally adjusting the debtor countries. Unless a country adheres to [the conditions of the SAP], it is denied access to commercial loans and credits, limited debt relief and multilateral aid. In addition most

industrialized countries now condition their bilateral assistance upon a country's adoption of an IMF Structural Adjustment Program..."

SAPs call for: cutbacks in government spending and increased taxes; currency devaluation; higher interest rates; transformation to an export economy and reduced government subsidies; privatization," the pamphlet continued.

According to Beyene, "the major negative point of Structural Adjustment is that it encourages countries to re-orient their markets towards exports, which makes domestic products almost worthless... The basic economist's view works well on paper, but the realities of how [SAPs affect] the population within those countries is not considered."

Ihnat elaborated, saying, "These policies have been shown to result in: one, increased child mortality; two, declining health and education; three, lower wages and standard of living; four, decreased ability to produce food for local consumption."

The Daily does municipal elections

BY AUBREY COHEN

Election time is here again. For the benefit of those who have yet to notice the fresh set of candidates' billboards outside the Roddick gates, let this serve as a wakeup call. The city will vote in a new Mayor and City Council on November 6, with or without your involvement.

This year, we at the Daily have made covering the municipal elections a high priority. Why? The answer is simple.

Although less glamorous than the other two levels of government, municipal politics is where the stuff which most directly impacts on our lives is dealt with. Such issues include:

- whether or not there will be more, fewer, or no bike lanes or reserved bus lanes;
- whether or not busses will be equipped to allow bicycles aboard;
- whether or not there will be a discount bus pass for university students;
- whether or not there will be recycling in our commercial areas;
- whether or not there will be more cops;
- whether or not the city will encourage cars to come downtown;
- whether or not the city will actively hire women and people of colour;
- whether or not the city will encourage co-operative, low-cost housing and fight condo conversion;
- whether or not the city will slash services;
- whether or not the city will fund the alternative arts



Mayor Jean Doré of the Montréal Citizens' Movement is vying for a third term.

This is a very rudimentary list of some of the reasons why you should be concerned about city politics and, more specifically, these elections.

If you think you cannot make a difference, you're wrong. There are 10,000 people in each city district. Of those, only 25 percent, or 5,000 people are expected to vote. Considering the fact that there are four major parties vying for dominance of our city government, less than 2,000 votes may easily elect a councillor. If every student in the ghetto voted, they would decide that district's representative.

If you think you are not allowed to vote, think again. Read our guide to who can and how to vote in this issue to find out if you qualify. If you can vote, VOTE. Make sure you are registered. This election is important and students can make a difference.

Look for continuing election coverage in the coming weeks.

How to VOTE!

BY AGATA DE SANTIS

Most Montréalers do not show an interest in the municipal elections. On November 4, 1990 only 36.1% of all eligible voters actually participated in the elections. Jean Doré became mayor with the support of just under 130,000 people. That's not much considering the fact that about 620,000 Montréalers were eligible to vote.

To be eligible to vote you must meet the following requirements. As of September 1 of this year you must be 18 or over, you must be a Canadian citizen, and you must have been living in Montréal for at least one year.

If you were not registered to vote during the enumeration period (September 6 to 11), there is still time. On October 8 and 9 you will be receiving a notice from the Elections Bureau indicating whether or not your name is entered on the electorate list. That notice will

also include information on the location of the polling station and what to do if your name is not on the list.

From October 14 to 17 your name can be added to the electorate list by visiting the polling station designated for your area and filling out an application for entry.

Any eligible voter who is unable to vote on November 6 may vote during the advance poll on October 30. Election officers, persons with disabilities, and persons who have reason to believe that they will not be in Montréal or close to their designated polling station on election day may vote in advance.

The Elections Bureau will be sending all voters a reminder specifying their electoral district, where to vote, and the names of the candidates.

For more information you can call the Elections Bureau at 872-5130. See you at the polls.

Three killed in Egypt as strikers clash with police

Three people were killed and at least 40 were wounded on Sunday in clashes between police and striking workers in northern Egypt, security sources said. A further 75 people were arrested for inciting a riot after the unrest in the industrial town of Kafr al-Dawwar, on the outskirts of the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria.

The security sources said 300 workers at the state-owned Spinning and Weaving Company were protesting over pay and working hours. Three workers were killed in the incident and 29 were hurt. Eleven policemen were also reported injured. Source-Reuters and New York Transfer News Collective



A referendum for reform

Do you support affirmative action? Is there a need for low-cost housing or health-care facilities? On November 8, Chicagoans will have the opportunity to voice their opinion as they head to the polls to answer a single question "Should the Federal government fund a massive Public Works Jobs Program?"

The proposition achieved ballot status following a whirlwind petition campaign by the Jobs and Equality Coalition that collected more than 5,000 support signatures at train and bus stops, shopping centers and unemployment offices.

South Chicago, formerly the industrial center of Chicago, once produced much of the nation's steel. However, the area has been hard hit by plant closings in the past several years due to deindustrialization and plant relocations. Thousands of workers once employed by U.S. Steel's South Works and Wisconsin Steel have been faced with eviction and foreclosure.

Frank Lumpkin, chair of the Wisconsin Steelworkers Save our Jobs Committee and one of the coalition leaders, said there was "no need to debate the issue when we were collecting signatures in South Chicago. All you have to do is take a look at South Chicago to see that there is a need for this type of program."

"All the boarded-up houses, all of the streets falling apart, all of the schools in need of repair - we have enough work to be done in South Chicago that thousands could be employed tomorrow." Source: People's Weekly World

Media threatens independence?

The city council in Riga, Latvia has adopted new rules to restrict the media. Publications, broadcasts and other media that propagate violence, campaign against Latvia's independence, or advocate chauvinism have been banned. Failure to comply with the regulations will entail a fine.

Council member Juris Dobelis commented on the move, claiming that newspapers which are regularly sold in downtown Riga, "undermine Latvia's stability and threaten its independence." During the era of the Soviet Union, the national newspaper PRAVDA used similar regulations to restrict the media. Source: alt.current.events.russia

For your safety

On Tuesday September 13 at 9h45, while two women were on a metro going to Lionel-Groulx, two men began verbally harassing them in English and in French. The men followed them and continued to verbally harass them as they got out of the metro and proceeded towards Solin Hall.

The men were described as "East-Asian, about 30 years old", with "scruffy beards" and were "rather short".

On Friday September 23 around 3h30, a woman was in the lobby of her apartment building on Decarie (near Queen Mary) when a man entered and wanted to use her phone. She refused and closed the door into the building. As she entered her apartment, she noticed that he followed her up the stairs. He again asked to use her phone, and she shut her door.

The man is described as "white with short blond hair", average height and build, wearing a black windbreaker. He spoke English with an accent.

The Walksafe Network (WSN) and the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Students' Society (SACOMSS) in cooperation with the McGill Daily publish this column to create social awareness and to provide a space where people can voice incidents. We feel that for this column to be effective and informative, it is important that we list the necessary details enabling the publication of any incident:

- a detailed physical description of the assailant, including hair, skin and eye colour, approximate height, weight and build, and any other distinguishing features,
- the language spoken, including any distinguishable accent,
- date, time and location of the incident.

If you wish to report an incident please contact us (SACOMSS 398-2700; WSN 398-2498) We also welcome any comments, suggestions or concerns about this column.

Dave Matthews ready to rock-out

BY JULIE CRYSLER

The Dave Matthews Band formed only three years ago. Ever since then they have been playing sell-out shows across the south eastern United States. Now, for the first time they are making their way up to Montréal to play at Club Soda.

When I spoke to Matthews on the phone he was excited to have received a "scathing review in New York. He didn't say anything that wasn't true, he just didn't like what we did. It's nice when that happens, it doesn't happen too often."

Despite the scathing review, the band managed to sell out the Roselands, (capacity 3500) in New York City.

The Dave Matthews band plays an eclectic mix of jazz, funk, celtic, latin, pop, country and rock and roll. The fusion of several styles in a single song leads to infinite sound possibilities, while rarely fumbling on a hook.

Matthews say he grew up "listening to a lot of different types of things."

"I went through obsessions with the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, or Monk or Vivaldi. I listen to a lot of classical music, more just to soothe the soul, because I'm not really sure I really

understand it. I really like Peter Gabriel now, and the Beatles are almost always on my mind in terms of songwriting."

The jazz sound that comes out on the album and in the live show has a lot to do with the rhythm section. Both Carter Beauford (percussion) and Stephan Lessard (bass) have been playing jazz for years. "A lot of the jazz sound comes from the playing, the arrangement" says Matthews.

When I asked about the live show Matthews said it was "manic, an

awful lot going on. The groove is very important, but there's a lot of musical precision. That's just from playing together a lot. We haven't had a two month period off since 1991."

The Dave Matthews band are tour-tight and ready to rock out at Club Soda on Wednesday October 5, 1994. Tickets are \$ 7.50, Doors open at 7:30pm and the show starts at 8:30pm. Their new CD, Under the Table and Dreaming will be in stores on October 7, 1994.



The Dave Matthews Band is set to storm Montréal.

The Shawshank Redemption

Freeman's new film confronts police brutality

BY RUMBI KATEDZA

An extraordinary tale of hope, friendship and survival, *The Shawshank Redemption* brings to the big screen a little something for all of us. Tim Robbins stars as a mild mannered, respected New England banker who is falsely accused of the murder of his unfaithful wife and her lover. Consequently, he receives a double-life sentence. Two time Oscar nominee Morgan Freeman plays a seasoned lifer. Incarcerated in Shawshank State Prison, the two men forge an unlikely relationship over a twenty year period.

Initially despised by the other inmates because of his soft-spoken, introverted manner, Andy Dufresne

(Tim Robbins) befriends the prison "fixer", Red (Morgan Freeman), and his gang (affectionately known as the Seven Dwarfs). Furthermore, in exchange for financial management and advice (read: exploitation), he is later "protected" from the tougher inmates by the warden, and his unruly gang of prison guards, led by a bloodthirsty captain with an appetite for violence.

Shawshank is about a corrupt prison. The film is riddled with images of police brutality and cold-blooded murder. Although the film is set in a maximum security penitentiary, writer/director Frank Darabont comments, "It deals more with character and thematic issues than it does with

fisticuffs and brawling. It's really about a friendship between two men that spans twenty years."

"Yeah, right," you, the reader, may say, but *Shawshank* deftly tackles human relations. Darabont adapted his screenplay from the Stephen King novella *Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption* (dig the title!). The latter appeared in his 1982 bestseller, *Different Seasons*, which also produced Rob Reiner's 1986 hit film, *Stand By Me* (originally titled *The Body*).

The film draws you into its world, eliciting feelings of happiness, sadness, depression, and most importantly, hope. The acting in *Shawshank* is impeccable. I can't imagine anyone

else playing the role of Red, never mind that in the book, Red is a red-haired Irishman, which Freeman is most certainly not.

"A lot of Andy is in what is not spoken, what he carries around inside him, his inner strength, finding a way to survive inside the walls," Robbins has to say of his character. And it is true that finding a way to survive within the four walls of Shawshank is crucial. Redemption is at the emotional heart of this movie. Andy, and especially Red, are able to reclaim their spirits through mutual support.

The film's producer, Niki Marvin, says, "The prison is also a metaphor

for life." She goes on to say, "In life people imprison themselves, confine themselves, stop themselves from realizing their own potential. Yes, it's physicalized in a prison environment, but the story goes beyond that."

And indeed it does. *Shawshank* is a "feel good" movie. When the crowd left the advanced screening that I attended, most of them had satisfied smiles on their faces as they left the room. I presumed it was the movie and its twisted plot and somewhat outlandish ending that they enjoyed. I assure you, this film is worth every penny. Go check it out!

The *Shawshank Redemption* is playing at The Faubourg.

EXPORTING

Chemical waste

A story from the New York Times

One year ago community organizing forced Chemical Waste Management to withdraw its application to build a hazardous waste incinerator in Kettleman City, California. A report released September 7, 1994 documents new attempts by Chemical Waste's parent company, WMX Technologies to site dangerous facilities in the US and throughout the world.

According to the report (published by the Political Ecology Group) WMX is considering taking advantage of NAFTA by exporting US hazardous waste to Mexico for disposal there.

The corporation is also expanding its networks of dumps and incinerators into the burgeoning waste markets of Europe, Asia and Latin America.

"With their dirty technologies increasingly discredited here at home WMX is going global, trying to sell its toxic cocktails to Mexico and the rest of the world," says PEG Coordinator Brad Erickson.

The report's author, Joshua Karliner suggests that "Toxic Empire should serve as a warning to 'green



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THE MCGILL DAILY

THE WASTE TRADE

Waste management and its environmental racism

Transfer News Collective



mutual funds' and institutional investors who might be thinking about sinking money into this purportedly environmental corporation."

The report chronicles a company that is building a legacy of environmental crimes, anti-trust violations and public corruption cases at home and abroad. The report also documents WMX's practices of siting its US hazardous facilities primarily in poor communities of colour, revealing it as an environmental racist.

In efforts to put a positive spin on its negative reputation, WMX has thrown money at the problem. It currently donates nearly \$1 million a year to environmental groups such as the World Wildlife Fund and the Audubon Society. It also makes annual donations to virtually every member of the House and Senate.

Recently WMX went so far as to organize a symposium entitled "Environmental Justice: The Search for Balance," inviting community and national environmental justice leaders to attend. The meeting was indefinitely postponed when the overwhelming

majority of environmentalists refused to participate.

"The only balance WMX is seeking is a juicy balance sheet. They haven't stopped trampling on communities of colour in the United States, on Indian lands, and in the Third World," says PEG activist Nikki Fortunato Bas.

WMX's activities continue to face community opposition throughout the US, including in Kettleman City, where the corporation still operates the largest hazardous waste landfill west of the Mississippi.

Kettleman City resident, Mary Lou Mares, who organized community opposition to the WMX/ChemWaste incinerator for six years said "You can never put your guard down when it comes to ChemWaste. People need to take what we've learned and keep fighting them." Opposition to WMX is also growing in Mexico, where the company is rapidly expanding its operations.

Information on the report can be obtained at peg-info@econet.apc.org or write to Political Ecology Group, 519 Castro Street, Box 111, San Francisco, CA 94114. voice 415/614-7835, e-mail peg@econet.apc.org.

About WMX Tech.

WMX Technologies (formerly Waste Management Inc.) is one of the 100 largest corporations in the world. Its revenues are nearly \$10 billion a year.

In 1992, WMX subsidiary Chemical Waste pled guilty to six felony violations in the largest criminal Superfund case in history, paying a \$11.6 million penalty.

A disproportionate number of WMX's hazardous facilities are located in poor communities of colour. It owns the largest hazardous waste dump in the US in Emelle, Alabama (with a majority African-American population) and the largest in California, Kettleman City (with a majority Latino population).

Its three commercial hazardous waste incinerator facilities are located on the Southeast Side of Chicago, Sauget, Illinois, and Port Arthur, Texas all of which are African-American and Latino communities.

In the face of growing opposition, WMX has dedicated significant resources to winning friends in government and the environmental movement who can help protect its interests. In 1992 alone the company gave nearly \$1 million to more than 70 US environmental groups.

WMX is the world leader in what has become one of the fastest growing industries around; a group of toxics-hauling, waste-water cleaning, air pollution-scrubbing corporations that comprise the nearly \$300-billion-a-year "environment industry."

Similar to the health care industry, the so-called "environment industry" treats the symptoms, rather than investing in prevention. Only 1 per cent of the so-called "environment industry's" activities are concentrated in the "green" area of pollution prevention. The rest are focused on the flawed "brown" end-of-the-pipe sector of clean-up and control, including incinerators and hazardous waste dumps.

While incineration is on the decline in the United States, WMX is rapidly expanding its horizons in Europe, Asia and Latin America. WMX currently has operations in at least 24 countries.

WMX is investing more than \$100 million in building a network of incinerators and hazardous waste dumps in Mexico to handle the toxics produced there by US and Mexican corporations. With NAFTA in place WMX also sees an opportunity to export US toxic waste to Mexico for incineration.

On the road to cleaning up the 'hood

Student Ghetto safety audit

BY CHERIE PAYNE

Over a year ago, then VP External Andrew Work pledged to work for better safety in the Student Ghetto. A caucus with representatives from the Walksafe Network, Women's Union, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Gay Students of McGill, Shakti Women of Colour Collective, Group Action, and Sexual Assault Centre has been working on the initiative since then.

On September 29, the caucus conducted an audit to evaluate the safety of the Ghetto area. Over thirty volunteers assisted in the survey. They were split into teams of two, with at least one woman on each team. They were given maps of one block areas to examine for safety features. Current VP External Nick Benedict explained the aims of the audit.

"There are three goals for the project. The first is to establish

any concrete improvements we can make in the Ghetto. The second is to provide a precedent so that [others]... can make changes in the neighbourhood, and so that students can see that their action actually works. The third is to promote awareness of sexual assault issues on campus," he said.

The coordinators of the audit are hoping to be able to use the results of the audit to pressure city council to improve the safety of the Ghetto area.

Each team filled out a questionnaire about the safety of their designated block. The questionnaire covered issues such as how many street lights in the block were functional, whether the sidewalks in the area allowed for easy mobility for those in wheelchairs or pushing a stroller, and whether or not there were phone booths in the area. In this way, it is hoped that the audit will be able to address the concerns

of both able-bodied, and physically challenged people.

At their volunteers training session, the volunteers were briefed on how to interpret 'safety'. The caucus coordinators explained that volunteers should report incidents of racist or homophobic graffiti as examples of things which could contribute to a hostile, or threatening environment.

"We can't cover everyone's experience with just two people, so we want people to be aware of how factors like racism and racist graffiti can affect safety," Benedict stressed at the training session.

The training session even drew supporters from outside of McGill. A representative from Marionopolis College, a Montreal CEGEP, told the *Daily* that he joined the audit in order to gain tips as to how to address safety problems on his own campus.

"Why not prevent [violence]

before it happens," he noted. "By coming here, we can get tips on how to implement an audit of [Marionopolis'] grounds," he said.

The goals of the audit aside, Group Action representative Lisa Grushcow noted that the exercise was beneficial even as an exercise for the volunteers.

"I think that it was empowering even to do the audit, and to check the places," she said. "[Furthermore], the survey will serve as a good political tool; it will provide us with a base from which to do solid lobbying."

Students' Society president Sevag Yeghoyan also volunteered in the audit. At the training session, he expressed agreement with Grushcow's prediction. "[With the results of this audit], we can say specifically what needs to be changed [in the ghetto] so that we can go to the municipal government," he said.

Novel discusses coming of age in the '90s A new generation finds its voice

By RYAN FITZGERALD

It was a long summer. I managed to go the entire length of it without finishing any piece of literature longer than TV Guide. I blame *Sesame Street* for prematurely lowering my attention span to 30 minute blocks. I either become completely involved in what I am reading or I stare blankly at pages.

Do abbreviated attention spans in this 'accelerated culture' demand an accelerated literature? Of course not. Popular fiction is a pragmatic media, willing to satisfy you in several appealing flavours; sometimes remaining authentic, beautiful, and entertaining in the process.

The audience is met half-way in this endeavour in *Kay Darling* by Laura MacDonald and Alex Pugsley. Both the writers and the main characters hover in age between 25 and 35. It is a story that incorporates the new sensibilities and style of this literary generation's coming of age, leaving you to wonder if you understand these people well enough to identify with them.

The story is of two sisters, Kay and Claire, and Kay's friend Will. It traces the disjointed progression of their lives through the four years that started this decade, the four years that close their twenties. But the constant probing and absorbing extractions from their pasts give the characters depth which will draw you very near, leaving a lingering sensation of intimacy. Add to this a stream of letters, narratives and personnel confidences and you begin to feel like you're reading someone's diary. Never descending into the literary voyeurism of an Anne Rice novel, it still tastefully fills you in on everything that enters their minds.

It leaps out of the gate with the freshly minted Kay Pritchard resigning from an entry-level job at a Toronto film studio. She is disillusioned with fiscal concerns always interfering with creativity and takes flight to Montréal to work with CBC. As soon as she achieves a desired distance from her past she is followed by her longtime friend Will. As an actor in town to audition at the Centaur Theatre, his life is crescendo complemented by angina; man-trouble followed by fame.

Claire, a student who lectures constantly on life, rounds out the trio with the twilight of her halcyon days in the McGill Ghetto social scene (this story will serve nicely as a travelogue for those unfamiliar with student life in Montréal). From this centre, the story explodes outwards as each character picks up velocity and stretches out toward Bloor Street, Los Angeles, and all points between. This story spans several lives, several years and several locales, leaving the reader with a sort of mini-epic, a soap-epic maybe.

Last Monday, I had a chance to speak with both the authors at a reading at Bistro 4 on St-Laurent. They were in town from Toronto as

Book Review:

Kay Darling
by Laura MacDonald
& Alex Pugsley
1994 Coach House Press
Toronto
16,95\$

part of the Urban Wanderers Reading Series of the Montréal Literary Calendar. The first thing I wanted to know was how they felt about being adopted into the 'Gen-X' literary canon. This is the first book for both of them and they didn't seem to want to be relegated to some literary ghetto, and definitely not one perpetuated by the likes of *Time* magazine and the advertising industry.

"I think that this is just a media driven label," suggested Laura MacDonald, maybe 30, maybe not, "and it doesn't represent any sort of target audience for our book. As we were finishing the book the emphasis on categorizing this stream of writing came about. The story is more representative of the lives of people coming to central Canada from afar. They all share experiences common to those moving to the city."

Alex Pugsley also came at the story at a different angle than most of the press the book has received "I think that students, who come from far away to cities like Toronto or Montréal and go to schools like U of T or McGill, don't fully realize that they are leaving behind their homes. [They] come to consider Toronto or Montréal their new home and discover that in these new places they have the opportunity to really change and become new people. I think the crisis in Claire's life [Kay's younger and more impressionable sister] comes from the realization that she can become somebody else. She is free to become one of a million new personalities, or many at once. But then there is Kay and Will ['Gen-Xers' who are now pushing 30], who

desire to just be one person, and not go crazy because they don't know who they are."

That brings into question several of the media's throw-away criterion for 'Gen-Xers' because, as Laura and Alex point out, they can be alternately applied to many different groups and social categories with the same authenticity. What may seem like an angst-brat collection of middle-class slackers could just as aptly be regarded as a pair of homesick Maritime emigrés (like Kay and Claire) adjusting slowly to their new surroundings. Or maybe they're just students caught up in the natural process of defining themselves and finding the menu a little disorienting. *Kay Darling* can be seen through several eyes as a stunning rebuke of what the soul-less cultural industry does to its best and brightest.

Likewise, several sub-cultures, lifestyles, and backgrounds are incorporated into this story to provide a multi-faceted look at the complexities of today's urban aspiring professionals (Uappies?). To start dismissing the characters of *Kay Darling* as conveniently fitting the molds of characters who have appeared elsewhere (such as the lost and spirited Claire of Doug Coupland's *Generation X*) would be doing a disservice. The story enlists a beautiful diversity of characters and none come across as anything but original.

Kay Darling emanates with detached hipness, unrelenting realism, and unsettling wisdom. Its characters never escape the centripetal force of their own cynicism, though at times there are abrupt about faces and emotional pauses in what is a very kinetic story. Mostly, this only contributes to an already heightened sense of realism. *Kay Darling* will envelop you and force you to abandon your friends for a few days as you read it. But, with the seductive realism and familiar turf, you shouldn't be surprised to run into a few familiar faces between the covers.



Coming soon:

A very special LBG issue of *The Daily*
(That's Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay, bi the way.)

To write call LBG at 398-6822
or come see us at the Daily.

LETTERS

To the Daily,

I write in response to your article of September 26 concerning illTV.

Your suggestion that the *Tribune* was in any way concerned about the effect illTV's potential revenue would have on the newspaper was erroneous. The *Tribune* was approached by illTV in mid-September for a letter of support, a request that the editorial board considered. It decided against authoring such a letter for one reason only: that supporting a fledgling campus organization compromised our position as an objective media source. I can assure you that in the issue of illTV taking revenue away from the *Tribune* never entered into the discussion.

The "open letter" from the SSMU Publications Department that you refer to was in fact signed by five members of SSMU Council, and not by Keith Gallop, the Programming and Marketing Coordinator of SSMU, and the head of the Publications Depart-

ment. The letter requested, for council's benefit, an explanation of how much, if at all, illTV might affect the *Tribune's* revenue commitments. The *Tribune's* editorial board is not concerned that illTV might detract from the newspaper's bottom line. Just a note of clarification.

Michael Broadhurst
Editor in Chief of the *Tribune*

To the Daily:

I'm writing off the top of my head to say that after six long years at McGill, I'm leaving with an interesting degree of Engineering with an Arts minor in French and Music. I have read your paper and other EVERY SINGLE DAY. Much of what I've seen at McGill has been eye-opening. I haven't agreed with much of what your paper does and what some letters say, but I appreciated the forum of discussion and thoughts that've resulted. Over the years, I've seen hundreds standing up for their

beliefs. Too bad that 'Memory Loss Syndrome' affair happened senior year. It ranks as the most disturbing thing I've seen here. Others include the first of many assaults in 1988, but also a 'not guilty' victim in 1989. This was also the first place where I was a victim of politics for jobs and racism within the system. The Red Cross 'crap' was also senseless. So are some of your headlines and papers too numerous to mention. (Whatever happened to Chris Haroun?) All in all, I guess I've seen too much crap — Selfishness, lack of common sense, courtesy, respect, and communication.

There's good things! We in residence created a walking service in response to a mountain attacker. Walksafe, Ombudsperson, Evaluations — brilliant ideas long overdue. Then I happened to try SAVOY SOCIETY and became part of history, meeting future VIP's from various backgrounds and personalities, along with 2 of the best friends I'd ever want. I've also learned plenty; to appreciate so many cultures, accept different ideologies, and tolerate

that which I don't agree with, or understand. DON'T rush through university and miss all the influential experiences (saw my first ballet, opera, symphony, play, concert, gallery). There's much to do if you really look.

I leave rising from the ashes of many sufferings, Born again, yet Prepared.

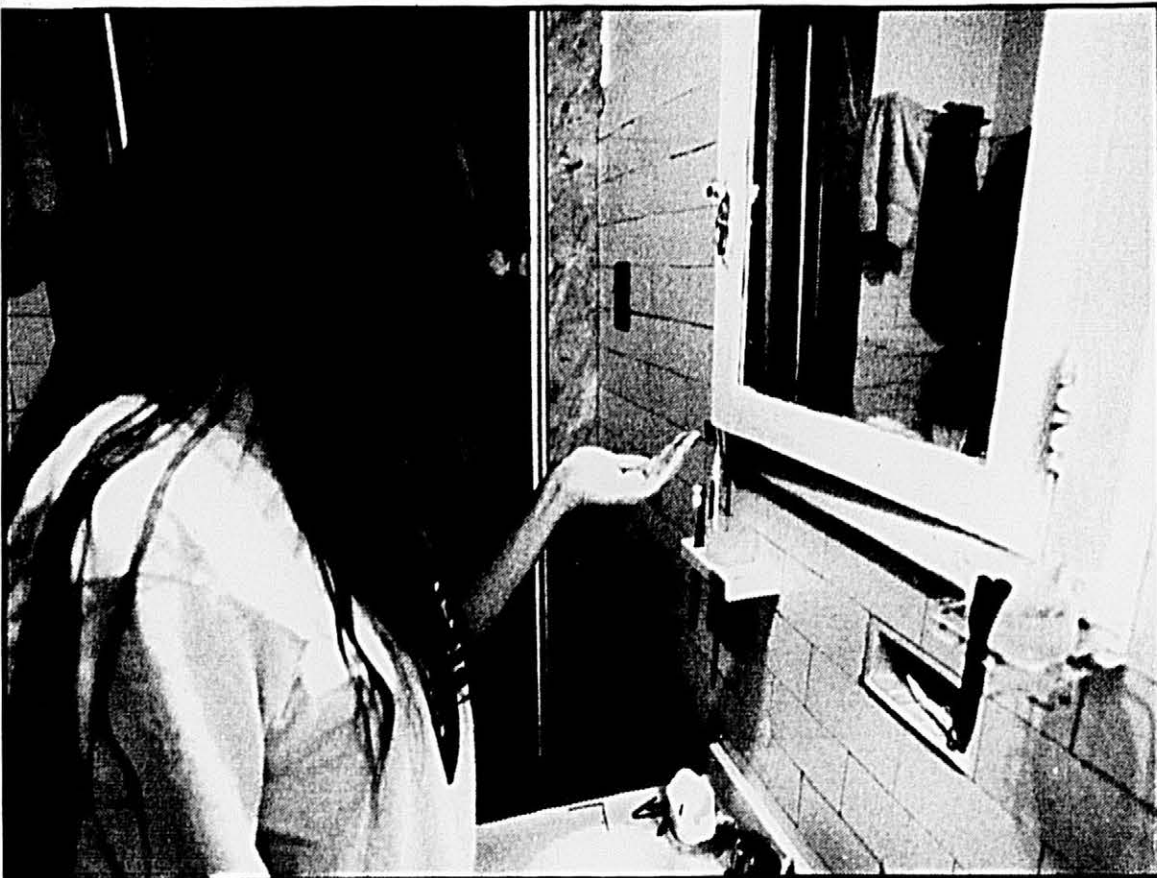
Rachan Bobby Umar
B.Eng 1994

To the Daily,

May I commend you for your recent article on Liberal cutbacks to our welfare system. As an Arts student and thus a future welfare recipient, I have a personal interest in your coverage. The government's policies are an insult to BAs. Do they not realise the years of work and thousands of dollars Arts students spend rendering themselves totally unfit for the Canadian work force?

Sincerely,

Gibran van Ert
BA U3.



The future of RU 486 is out of the hands of Canadian women.

RU 486 still not available

BY AUBREY COHEN

RU 486, the "abortion pill", is now legally available in Great Britain, France, Sweden, China and the Netherlands. It is now being tested for use in the United States. It is not, however, available in Canada, nor will it be in the foreseeable future.

RU 486 is a revolutionary new treatment which, for the first time, allows for non-surgical abortions. The Society of Obstetrics and Gynecologists of Canada has formally recognized the importance of RU 486. However, Roussel-Uclaf, the company which makes the pill, has no plans to apply for a licence for the drug in Canada.

The company has said it wants to avoid the abortion controversy which rages in North America.

Newt Williams, the president of Hoechst-Roussel Canada, the Canadian subsidiary of Roussel Uclaf, explained the company's policy.

"There have been four criteria [for applying for distribution] that Roussel Uclaf has had since the inception of the product... One of the requirements... is that there is a consensus, represented by a government mandate in support of the product," he said.

According to Williams, the product must also be controlled through clinics, there must be an approved prostaglandin (a chemical agent essential to helping to insure the success of the drug) and legal abortion must be enshrined in the criminal code.

Roussel Uclaf has said they will only apply for a licence if invited to do so by the Prime Minister. The government, however, does not do such things.

Bonnie Johnson, National Director of The Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada, said she does not blame the government for this stand

off and does not want the Prime Minister to invite the company to apply for a licence.

"I don't like politics getting involved in something like medical drugs. I think that's a very bad precedent to set. I think the Prime Minister's job is to keep politics out of it," she said. "If Roussel Uclaf asked to have it tested in Canada it would be treated the same as any other drug."

She said she does, however, think RU 486 needs to be available.

"This is the first drug in history that has ever been held hostage to

Uclaf's parent company, Hoechst, is anti-choice.

According to information published by the Childbirth by Choice Trust, when Roussel-Uclaf removed the RU 486 from the French market, the government forced the return of the drug. Claude Evin, the French health minister, said, "RU 486 [has become] the moral property of women, not just the property of the drug company."

Anti-choice groups in North America have been lobbying fiercely against the introduction of RU 486.

Abortion-rights groups say the reason for this is that, if the drug were to be available in Canada, it would, for the first time, make abortion a truly private matter between a woman and her doctor. This would cut out the abortion clinic, which is a visible target for anti-choice protests.

William confirmed that the

company has no plans to register RU 486 in Canada.

Johnson said she does not see much hope for the introduction of RU 486 any time soon.

"I think it's a long wait, I think [Roussel-Uclaf] will continue to set up roadblocks. I think they'll do everything in their power to keep the drug from being distributed in North America," she predicted.

She said that public pressure is the only way to force the company into Canada.

Those who want to pressure Roussel-Uclaf to allow trials of RU 486 should voice their opinion to Hoechst-Roussel. Write to: H. Newton Williams, president and CEO, Hoechst-Roussel Canada Inc., 4045 Cote Vertu, Montréal, Québec, H4R 2E8.

Send a copy to: Dr. André Ulmann, Medical Director, Roussel-Uclaf, 102-111 Route de Noisy, 93230 Romainville, France.

"This is the first drug in history that has ever been held hostage to political forces."

— Bonnie Johnson, National Director of the Planned Parenthood Federation of Canada

political forces," she commented.

Johnson called the company's excuse for not trying to distribute in Canada "a red herring".

"[Roussel-Uclaf] is putting up all sorts of barriers. The first barrier was we had a law on the books that they wanted to be gotten rid of. When that law was dropped, they came up with another excuse," she explained.

Williams explained his company's reluctance to enter the Canadian market, saying, "It's our view that there's not a consensus for use of the product in Canada."

Speculating on the other reasons why Roussel Uclaf does not want RU-486 to be available in Canada, Johnson said, "There is very little profit to be made on the drug... If the profit was higher, I think the moral and ethical issues would disappear pretty quickly."

Another factor, according to Johnson, is that the director of Roussel-

DAILY PHOTO BY JACK SULLIVAN

WEST POINT STUDENT CONFERENCE ON UNITED STATES AFFAIRS

Applications are invited for one delegate to attend the 46th West Point Conference dealing with "Interests, Instruments, and Implementation: Facing the Foreign Policy Future." The conference will be held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point from November 16-19, 1994. Preference will be given to U3 students with academic background in international politics; international economics and area studies. Applications may be obtained from:

Cheryl Sarkany, Chair Secretary
Department of Political Science
Leacock 539

DEADLINE: 12 Noon, Wednesday, 12 October

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.

McGill Students & Staff (with valid ID): \$4.00 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day (\$11.00 per week). **General Public:** \$5.00 per day, or \$4.25 per day for 4 or more consecutive days (\$17.00 per week). Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST (7%) or PST (6.5%). For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER.** The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

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14 - NOTICES

LBGM discussion grps. Wed. 5:30 Bi-Group Shatner 423. Thurs. 7PM women's grp. Shatner 423. Fri. coming-out 5:30 & General 7PM, 3521 University.

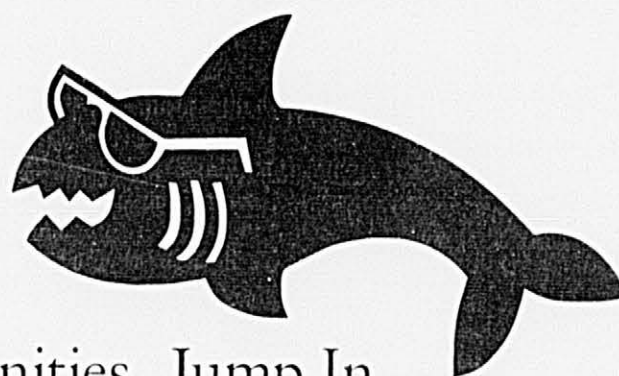
St. Martha's in the Basement: an ecumenical, eucharistic service of peace and dialogue, Sundays 10:30am beginning Sept. 11. Pot-luck lunch follows. 398-4104

McGill Nightline is an information listening and referral service. Open 9pm-3am until mid Oct. and 6pm-3am the rest of the year. Try it out!! 398-6246.

15 - VOLUNTEERS

The McConnell Brain Imaging Centre is looking for male or female volunteers 18+ to participate in brain function studies. Call Dr. D. Reutens for more info at 398-1996 or 398-8932.

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On-Campus Event:

Company Presentation

Wednesday, October 5, 1994

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Commons Room, McConnell Bldg.

See Career & Placement Services for details.

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